(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Punjab State Marketing Federation submitted two applications for substantial expansion of their unit at Khanna—one from 50 TPD to 100 TPD and the other from 50 TPD to 150 TPD. The applications were examined. The first application has been *prima-facie* rejected. The second application stands finally rejected.

The Federation has made a representation which is under active consideration.

Development of tourism in the country

*187. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Committee set up by the Government for evolving a perspective plan for the development of tourism in the country has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the findings of the report; and

(c) what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) The National Committee on Tourism set up to formulate a long-term perspective plan for Tourism sector is expected to submit its report by the end of May, 1988.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shortage of edible oils in the country

*188. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a serious shortage of edible oils in the country leading to an abnormal increase in its price; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve its supplies and to reduce its price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Keeping in view the gap between demand and supply of indigenous edible oils, the following steps have been taken by Government;

(i) Better supply management of imported edible oils in respect of States/Union Territories for PDS as well as or vanaspati industry.

(ii) States have been advised repeatedly to take stringent action against speculators, hoarders and other anti-social elements.

(iii) Voluntary price agreement with vanaspati industry and discussions with oil industry.

(iv) Credit control for edible oilseeds/oils has tighened with effect from 15.7.87 and stock limit of edible oils and oilseeds has been reduced under the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977.

Telecast of sponsored programmes

*189. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Doordarshan propose to gradually phase out the telecast of the sponsored programmes made by outside producers by producing these programmes itself; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): It is the long term objective of Doordarshan to